

**NATIONAL ASSEMBLY**

**QUESTION FOR WRITTEN REPLY**

**QUESTION NUMBER: 741 [NW909E]**

**DATE OF PUBLICATION: 16 MARCH 2012**

**Ms A M Dreyer (DA) to ask the Minister of Finance:**

Whether any officials from (a) the National Treasury and (b) any entities reporting to the National Treasury were on an official visit to Bloemfontein in (i) December 2011 and (ii) January 2012; if so, in each case, what (aa) is the (aaa) name and (bbb) position of the specified official, (bb) was the (aaa) purpose and (bbb) date of such visit and (cc) was the cost of (aaa) transport, (bbb) accommodation and (ccc) other expenses?

NW909E

**REPLY:**

DEPARTMENT / ENTITY	NO. OF OFFICIALS	DUTIES	TOTAL COST
National Treasury (NT)	2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>2 NT officials on official NT related duties – Manthatisi PPP meeting and meeting with HODs of Finance</li></ul>	R 9 755.26
Accounting Standard Board (ASB)	2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Presented a workshop on <i>Exposure Drafts of Standards of GRAP</i> issued by ASB to obtain comments from Free State provincial treasury officials</li></ul>	R 6 786.00
Co-operative Banks Development Agency (CBDA)	N/A	N/A	N/A
Development Bank of Southern Africa (DBSA)	19	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Provincial report back with <i>Siyenza Manje</i> progress in Municipalities and quarterly projections. Opening of bids by Supply Chain Management Committee.</li><li>DBSA presentation of work done on the <i>Free State Roads Rehabilitation Programme</i> in line with the DBSA/Department signed Mandate Agreement.</li><li>To present to DWA the DBSA approved <i>Water and Sanitation Programme</i>, solicit partnerships in terms of the Oversight Committee to be established and explore co-funding opportunities on DWA's projects.</li><li>To discuss progress on the <i>Mangaung Water and Sanitation Infrastructure Programme</i> and revisiting and updating the disbursement schedule to align with new priority elements.</li><li>Project Development meeting on the <i>Health PPPs</i> in the Free State with the HOD and the Executive team.</li></ul>	R 68 812.00
Financial Intelligence Centre (FIC)	2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Purpose withheld due to sensitivity of the information involved</li></ul>	R 4 902.20
Financial Services Board (FSB)	N/A	N/A	N/A
Government Pensions Administration Agency (GPAA)	6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Modernisation Road Show: Bloemfontein - to share with GPAA staff the Modernisation Agenda and Projects identified within the programme.</li></ul>	R 42 219.82

Independent Regulatory Board for Auditors (IRBA)	N/A	N/A	N/A
Land Bank	N/A	N/A	N/A
Office of the OMBUD for Financial Services Providers (FIAS)	N/A	N/A	N/A
Office of the Pension Fund Adjudicator (PFA)	N/A	N/A	N/A
Public Investment Corporation (PIC)	N/A	N/A	N/A
South African Special Risk Insurance Association (SASRIA)	N/A	N/A	N/A
South African Revenue Services	89	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>During December and January South Africa's border posts are more demanding because of the annual festive season activities and requires additional deployment of staff and other resources to ensure the smooth and efficient processing of passengers and vehicles through our border posts, of which there are four along the Free State border with Lesotho.</li> <li>SARS uses the relatively quieter period after the deadline for Tax Season (25 November 2011) to conduct maintenance in offices as well as training for staff as part of our on-going investment in enhancing our services.</li> </ul>	R 424,666.00
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>120</b>		<b>R 557 141.28</b>

I am satisfied from the information provided that

- a) There was no abuse of state funds
- b) The officials concerned were conducting official duties unrelated to the celebrations.